

about the agency



office of secretary of state

The Office of Secretary of State is best known for running elections, but it also houses a number of other divisions and programs, such as domestic partnership registration, innovative digital archives and, soon, a library specializing in services for sight-impaired customers. Here is a basic overview of the agency:



executive office

Secretary Sam Reed's executive office works to develop key policy, and also facilitates dialogue with international diplomats, the people of Washington state and the media.



elections

The Elections division develops the policies surrounding elections, while also training and certifying elections workers and providing voter services. On the Web, you can search for election laws, register to vote and get more information on upcoming events, like the Top 2 Primary.



state library

The Washington State Library runs 14 library branches, including seven in state prisons. It provides public services, while also heading the development and preservation of library resources. In July, it will welcome the addition of the Washington Talking Book and Braille Library to its offerings.



state archives

Archives are not just about the past at the agency. This division has developed cutting-edge ways to preserve millions of government records through its Digital Archives – the first in the country. Archives operates five regional branches throughout the state.



corporations

The Corporations Division encompasses a wide range of programs, including charitable organizations and domestic partnership registration, and apostilles and certificates. On the Web, you can search through public records to find more information about corporations and charities in the state.



special programs

Secretary Reed is dedicated to his agency's special programs such as address confidentiality, historical records, and the Productivity Board, which allows state employees to submit ideas on how to make agencies more efficient.



heritage center

Scheduled to open 2012, the center is a visionary project bringing together the best of the state's library and archive resources, and featuring state history exhibits and educational programs in a new building. The Legacy Project (formerly Oral History) has become a partner in this effort.

visit www.secstate.wa.gov